

# The BUZZ WORD

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**13**  
2022



*Some people make you laugh a little louder,  
your smile a little brighter,  
and your life a little better.*



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

*Fulfilling the Promise*

**The Vermont Veterans' Home was established in Bennington in 1884. It is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The VVH offers a complete range of specialized care services for its residents. VVH goals focus on ensuring the dignity, independence, and the highest possible care and quality of life for each resident.**

**VVH is licensed to meet all levels of care for its residents and the VVH's departments and staff work together to provide those levels of care.**

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**802-447-6523**



<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

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## *From the Administrator—Melissa Jackson*

### **To Our VVH Family and Friends,**

Despite the fall-like temperatures, we had a nice turnout for the Father's Day Car Show. It was nice to have something from pre-COVID return to the grounds. We are anticipating a visit from the USS Vermont Crew on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Activities staff are busy getting the Veterans and Members out on the golf carts touring the property.



The work continues on the security project albeit mostly behind the scenes. Thus far the project is on time and on budget. We will provide neighborhood-based updates when work may interrupt the daily routine or cause increased noise.

Pat Crossman retired from her position as DNS (Director of Nursing Services) on June 17<sup>th</sup>. We currently are recruiting for the position and have been for several months now. Mary Cicirello, ADNS is acting DNS currently. I will provide updates on recruitment efforts in next month's Buzz word.

**Take care,**

**Melissa**

Melissa A. Jackson, MBA, FACHCA

Chief Executive Officer

[www.Vvh.vermont.gov](http://www.Vvh.vermont.gov)

### **CONGRATULATIONS, DANIELLE !!**



Melissa Jackson, CEO, presented the CEO coin to Danielle Record for not only taking excellent care of the Veterans but for also caring for the turtles "Bonnie & Clyde", including coming in to clean the tanks on a regular basis on her day off.

The CEO Coin is awarded to staff in special recognition for their dedication to the Veterans and the VVH, going "above and beyond" their normal call of duties.

### **THANK YOU**



### **POPPIES and POSTERS**

The Ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary Post 13 brought crafted poppies and Memorial Day Posters made by the Local Learners from the following Schools: Shaftsbury Elementary, Sacred Heart, Grace Christian and Molly Stark Elementary.

*From the Deputy Administrator  
Asa Morin*



I would like to thank all of the families and our staff who were able to get Veterans and Members out to enjoy the car show. It was a wonderful event!

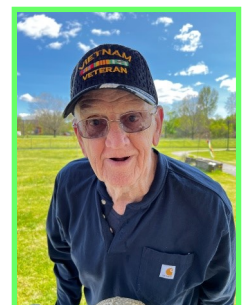
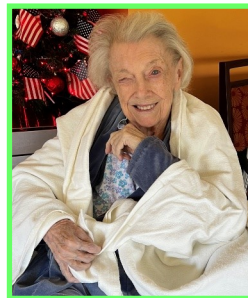
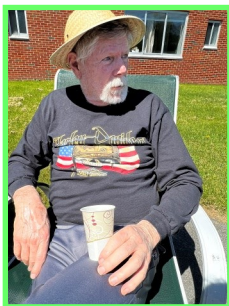
We continue to work on plans for other outdoor activities during the summer and will share information as we solidify plans. We are planning on participating in the Bennington Battle Day Parade in August, so be on the lookout for us there!

In other news, Corey McCann, social worker for American Way and the DOM has moved on to her next adventure. Therefore, please be sure to reach out to Christina Cosgrove or Aisling Taft for any social work needs.

Additionally, a reminder about personal items – if you bring in items, such as clothing for your loved one, please give to a staff member so that they can be properly labeled and inventoried.

***Asa***

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## NORTH VILLAGE ARTISTS

Mandalas, picture frames and animal shapes were only a few of the items from which residents could choose for their projects to pass the time on a weekday afternoon.



Students from both 3rd Grade Classes at Bennington Elementary School walked to the Veterans' Home and personally delivered hand-made poppies in celebration of Memorial Day and remembrance of our Veterans and Members.



**NICK**  
**Happy**  
**Birthday**  
**Surprise**



Capt. Farmer from the VT State Police presented "Nick" with a special license plate for the VT State Police 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A special plate was made for Nick since he had worked with Capt. Farmer's father for many years at the VT State Police. It was Nick's birthday so this was a wonderful surprise gift for him.





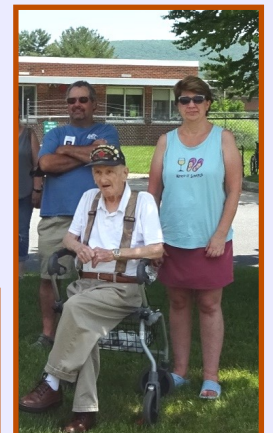
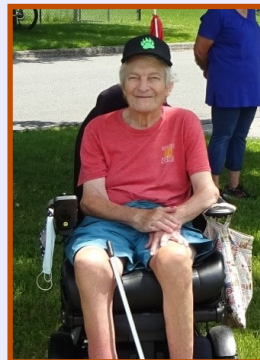
## WHAT IS IN THE BOX?

A Telescope Furniture set was raffled by the Dept. of Vermont VFW. The proceeds from the fund raiser were very generously contributed to the Home. Pictured above with Melissa are Steve Leach, VT VFW Commander and Bill, VFW member.

**PAYING IT FORWARD**—The VFW Montpelier Post 792 won the raffle and in turn kindly donated their prize to the VVH to be enjoyed by the Veterans and Members. It is currently in the North Village courtyard.



## Memorial Day Parade





## Chaplain's Corner

Howdy Folks,

By the time you read this, the Car Show at the Veterans' Home will have happened on the 18th. Hope our Veterans, their spouses and the staff had an opportunity to observe the old, restored, modified and new vehicles that many owners are so proud to display. Yours truly was there with a 1952 Dodge in original condition.

It's always a pleasure to chat with those who remember the old days and vehicles of yesterday.

While we enjoy our pleasures such as the Annual Veterans' Home Car Show, let us remember our Veterans who make this kind of activity able to exist. Praise God for our freedoms and liberties.

Please pray for our men and women around the globe.

God bless,  
Chaplain Ken



Nothing better...



than Family  
visits



**PJ Hyde (yellow tee)** donated this stunning, painted, hand-crafted Flag picnic table to the VVH.

"Somebody came up with the idea that the veterans would like it. That would be a good home for it. I just think it's a better thing to go to the people who served us." said PJ.

Aisling Taft, Social Worker and niece of Mr. Hyde, coordinated the delivery of the table by PJ and his helpers Gary Pierce and Filip Thurston.

The table has been enjoyed by Veterans and their family members.



# CAR SHOW



1936 Indian Chief







C  
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R



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On behalf of the  
Veterans and Members,  
we sincerely thank the  
following for their  
generous donations:



Joel Whiting  
Edward St. John  
Erlon Broomhall  
Phyllis and Rhonda Roberts  
Steve Leach  
Richard Hamilton  
VFW Post 9653—Morrisville  
Ballard-Hobart American Legion Post 36  
Ballard-Hobart American Legion  
Post 36 Riders  
Department of Vermont VFW  
VFW Montpelier Post 792  
Bennington Elem. School 3rd Grades  
Don & Verral Keelan  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 13  
PJ Hyde  
Shaftsbury Elementary School  
Grace Christian School  
Sacred Heart School  
Molly Stark Elementary School  
Kristian Perry  
Priscilla Lanpher  
Sons of the American Legion Detachment  
of Vermont  
American Legion Post 49—Fair Haven  
Ladies Benevolent Society  
Richard Hamilton

### **In Memory of William Praetorius**

Kathleen Praetorius

### **In Memory of Julia Fox**

Deborah & Gordon Boyd  
John & Maryann McLeod  
Richard & Bonnie Teal  
Kenneth & Ruth Hedberg

### **In Memory of Alexander Mahar**

The Mahar Family

## **VVH Staff Recognition Years of Service**

### **ACTIVITIES**

Rae Ann Woods — 34

### **CLEANING/HOUSEKEEPING/ LAUNDRY**

Robert Polly — 10 years  
Holly Waldron — 5 years

### **DIETARY**

Steve Smith — 12 years

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Dale Lampman — 14 year

### **NURSING**

Tracy Greene — 27 years  
Wendy Kunzmann — 12 years  
Elise LaBrake — 9 years  
Mary Cicirello — 7 years  
Misty Shores — 7 years  
Wendy Ford — 6 years  
Elizabeth Boyington — 3 years  
Victoria Perrotta — 1 year  
Sheila Thomas — 1 year

**ONE TEAM  
ONE SPIRIT**



## THE BUZZ WORD

Three ways for you to receive the Vermont Veterans' Home monthly newsletter:

- ♦ Vermont Veterans' Home website:  
[www.vvh.vermont.gov](http://www.vvh.vermont.gov)  
Click on About Our Home  
Click on Newsletters
  - ♦ Email
  - ♦ Mailing List (postal)
- To be added to our lists please contact:

The Buzz Word  
Vermont Veterans' Home  
325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201

Robyn Boland  
(802) 447-6523  
Email: [Robyn.Boland@vermont.gov](mailto:Robyn.Boland@vermont.gov)

## VVH WISH LIST

I-Pod Shuffles  
(4th Generation)



Newspaper Subscriptions  
Bingo Prizes      Crafts  
Neck Pillows      Stamps  
CD Players      I-Tune Cards  
Body Pillows      Costume Jewelry  
Outdoor Benches  
Two pocket front wheelchair/walker bags

**Please make the check for monetary donations out to Vermont Veterans' Home:**

**Vermont Veterans' Home  
Business Office  
325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201**

**Your donations are gratefully accepted.  
THANK YOU**

**Due to COVID-19, we are not able to accept: books, CDs, puzzles or used clothing.** We will keep you posted when changes are made. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

## DONATION INFORMATION

Your donations are gratefully accepted. Please make check out to Vermont Veterans' Home:

**Vermont Veterans' Home  
Business Office  
325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201**

Please indicate to which fund(s) you are donating:

### Members Assistance:

Directly to Veterans/Members  
Furniture, Haircuts, Clothing  
Other personal needs

### Namaste Program Fund:

Oils for relaxation  
Supplies, Equipment

### Unrestricted Fund:

Facility equipment  
Large purchase

### Activities Fund:

Entertainment

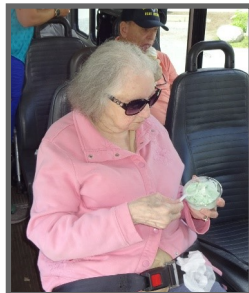
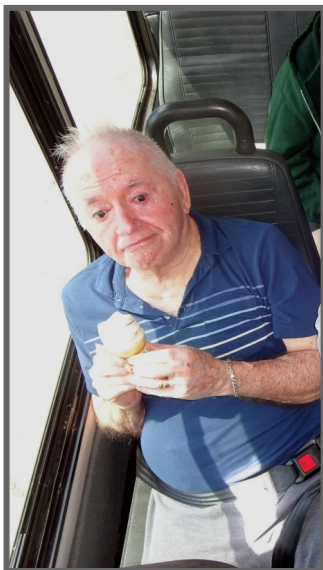
### Music & Memory Fund:

iPods, Headphones, iTunes cards

### NEW: Veteran's Mobility Trail

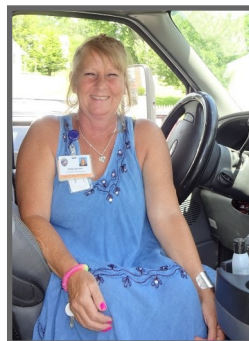
Monetary donations toward  
a paved walkway around  
the perimeter of the VVH



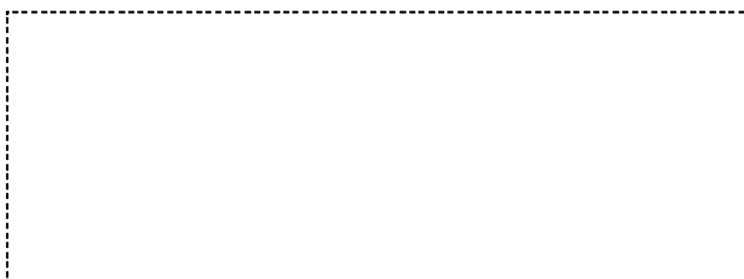


## ROAD TRIP

Michelle & Kelly hosted a visit to the Arlington Dairy Bar.



***"FULFILLING THE PROMISE: Caring for the Veterans of Vermont and their families"***



Vermont Veterans' Home  
325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201

